Telephone Bill Arrears

1794. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of telephone bills in arrears against each of the former Union Ministers and former Members of Parliament as on 30th June, 1986; and

(b) the break up of the amount of telephone bills outstanding against them with respect to their tephones at Delhi and that at their usual places of residence?

THE MINISER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The information has been called for from the concerned units and will be placed on the Table the House as early as possible.

Taking up of Job by Retired Telephone Officers in Private Concerns

1795. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of retired officers of Bombay Telephones have joined RAHEJA group of companies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these retired officers are helping the RAHEJA group companies in a number of ways through their influence;

(c) if so, how many retired Bombay telephone employees at present are working with the above group and whether necessary permission to join this group has been accorded to them; and

(d) whether the Government propose to hand over the case to CBI to enquire into the various deals finalised by the above group with Telephone Department, Bombay through these retired officers and if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) This Department is not aware whether any retired officer of Bombay Telephones has joined Raheja group of companies. As per instruction on the subject only Group 'A' officers have to seek permission for taking up employment after retirement. No retired officer from Bombay Telephones has asked for permission from this office for joining Raheja Group and no permission has been granted from this office.

(d) Question does not arise.

Improvement of Telephone Services

1796. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had recently held meetings with the General Managers of metropolis and major districts and stressed the need to improve the telephone services in the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that telephone services in the cities, at Delhi and Bombay have deteriorated after the conversion of Delhi and Bombay telephones into a Corporation; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve the telephone services throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Steps taken to improve the telephone services throughout the country are given below:—

1. Introduction of sophisticated electronic telephone exchanges to avoid problems inherent with electromagnetic swithcing equipment used hitherto.

2. Replacement of life expired equipment.

3. Special testing of exchange equipment particularly inter-exchange junctions is being under taken to improve inter-exchange working.

4. Working of air-conditioning plants in various exchanges is being regularly monitored to ensure proper working.

5. Laying of new junction, primary and secondary cables inducts to protect them from external damages.

6. Pressarisation of primary, secondary and junction cables to minimise cable break-down faults.

7. Use of jelly filled cables in the distribution network to prevent entry of water in the cables to avoid faults.

8. Cable trenches are being flooded before being closed so as to detect any damage during trenching or laying of the cables. The public is being asked to inform Telephone Department before they take up digging on 'dial before dig' service so as to keep liaision with other agencies who are engaged in digging.

9. Extensive patrolling of cable routes to detect any digging operations and to take precautionary measures to avoid damage to cables.

10. Provision of high grade junction circuits on Pulse Code Modulqtion, Coaxial and microwave media to provide better quality and more dependable service.

11. Rehabilitation of subscribers fittings and the D. P. boxes to minimise faults on the line.

12. Replacement of overhead wires by insulated drop wires to avoid faults due to kite strings, bird nests etc. which lead to contract or low insulation faults.

13. Use of improved telephone instruments.

14. Replacement of aluminium wires in he fittings at the subscribers premises by copper wires to *avoid break faults.*

15. Computerisation of cable records and fault repair service to bring down duration of faults.

16. Computerisation of Directory Assistance, (197) service and records.

17. Computerisation operator assisted (180) trunk services.

18. Monitoring of the automanual service and trunk service is being carried out so as to ensure prompt response on these services.

19. Public grievance cells have been opened at GMs headquarters and AMS offices to provide single outlet attention to the subscribers.

20. Formation of ineruiliy coordination boards to avoid damage to cables.

Irregularities in installation of Public Call Offices

1797. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been large irregularities in the installation of Public Call Offices at Tri Nagar, Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any complaint from some Member of Parliament has been received in this regard recently;